

Claims:

- 1 1. A method of creating a patterned monolayer on a substrate,
2 comprising;
3 preparing organic molecules having self-assembling properties;
4 applying the organic molecules to an aligning surface; and
5 separating the aligning surface from the substrate, leaving ordered patterns of
6 the organic molecules on the substrate.
- 1 2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the aligning surface
2 comprises a graphite-like substrate.
- 1 3. A method according to Claim 1, wherein preparing includes preparing
2 at least two different species of organic molecules to preferentially align to a specific
3 feature on the aligning surface when applied.
- 1 4. A method according to Claim 1, wherein preparing includes preparing
2 at least two different species of the organic molecules to preferentially align to a
3 plurality of features on the aligning surface when applied.
- 1 5. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising utilizing the
2 ordered patterns as a mask.
- 1 6. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising contacting the
2 aligning surface with the substrate.
- 1 7. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the aligning surface is highly
2 ordered pyrolytic graphite.
- 1 8. A method according to Claim 1, wherein each of the organic molecules
2 have a tail group and a head group, and optionally a functional group.
- 1 9. A method according to Claim 8, wherein the head group is a molecular
2 group.

1 10. A method according to Claim 9, wherein the head group is a molecular
2 group having an aromatic ring.

1 11. A method according to Claim 8, wherein the head group is biphenyl.

1 12. A method according to Claim 8, wherein the ordered patterns include
2 substantially parallel lines, and wherein the size of the tail group helps determine
3 lateral spacing between the parallel lines.

1 13. A method according to Claim 12, wherein preparing the molecules
2 comprises preparing a solvent system having organic molecules therein, and wherein
3 the organic molecules used to prepare the solvent system determines the lateral
4 spacing.

1 14. A method according to Claim 8, wherein the functional group of the
2 organic molecules is chosen based on processing requirements.

1 15. A method according to Claim 14, wherein the organic molecules each
2 contain a biphenyl subgroup.

1 16. A method according to Claim 14, wherein the organic molecules each
2 contain a thiol group and wherein the substrate contains a layer of gold.

1 17. A method according to Claim 14, wherein the organic molecules
2 contains an isocyanate group as the functional group, and the substrate contains a layer
3 chosen from one of platinum and palladium.

1 18. A method according to Claim 14, wherein the organic molecules may
2 contain an isocyanate group as the functional group, and particles containing palladium
3 preferentially align to the surface along aligned molecules according to their
4 functional groups, and wherein the substrate surface includes palladium.

1 19. A method according to Claim 14, wherein the self assembled organic
2 molecule contains an isocyanate group as the functional group, and particles containing
3 platinum preferentially align to the surface along the ordered isocyanate functional
4 groups.

1 20. A method according to Claim 1, wherein each of the organic molecules
2 have a tail group and a head group, and optionally a functional group, wherein the
3 organic molecules are laterally spaced after they are applied.

1 21. A method according to Claim 20, further comprising solvating the
2 organic molecules in an alkane solvent, wherein the solvating process controls the
3 lateral spacing of the organic molecules.

1 22. A method according to Claim 20, wherein the organic molecules each
2 comprise substituted alkyl biphenyl.

1 23. A method of creating a patterned feature on a substrate comprising:
2 preparing a solution of organic molecules having self-assembling properties;
3 applying the solution to an aligning surface;
4 contacting the aligning surface with the substrate; and
5 separating the aligning surface from the substrate, leaving patterns of the
6 organic molecules on the substrate.

1 24. A method according to Claim 23,
2 wherein separating the aligning surface from the substrate includes leaving
3 ordered patterns of the organic molecules on the substrate in a manner to perform as a
4 mask.

1 25. A method according to Claim 23 further comprising introducing
2 additional organic molecule species to the surface which preferentially align to the
3 functional groups existing along defined patterns.

1 26. A method according to Claim 23, further comprising introducing
2 additional organic molecule species having functional groups to the surface to cause
3 certain molecules to preferentially align according to functional groups along pre-
4 defined patterns.

1 27. A method according to Claim 24, wherein the method further
2 comprises etching the substrate.

1 28. A method according to Claim 25, wherein the method further
2 comprises etching the substrate.

1 29. A method according to Claim 23, further comprising controlling the
2 lateral spacing of organic molecules by solvating the self-assembling molecules in an
3 alkane solvent.

1 30. A component for use in a device comprising: ✓
2 a substrate; and
3 a self-assembled monolayer that adheres to the substrate and that is prepared
4 using organic molecules that align themselves in an ordered pattern configured with a
5 solvating process that promotes an ordered alignment of the molecules on an
6 alignment surface.

1 31. A component according to Claim 30, wherein the device is a
2 computing device.

1 32. A component according to Claim 30, wherein the self-assembled
2 monolayer is composed of a plurality of organic molecules, each having an alkyl
3 chain, a head group that adheres to the substrate and an optional functional group that
4 has beneficial properties.

1 33. A component according to Claim 30, wherein the self-assembled
2 monolayer is a dielectric material.

1 34. A component according to Claim 30, wherein the self-assembled
2 monolayer includes aligned Au nanoparticles.

1 35. A component according to Claim 30, wherein the self-assembled
2 monolayer is an etch mask for creating features on a substrate.

1 36. A component according to Claim 30, wherein the self-assembled
2 monolayer provides an etch mask for making nanosized wires.

1 37. A component according to Claim 30, wherein the self-assembled
2 monolayer is configured in a parallel line pattern, where lateral spacing between the
3 lines is controlled by solvating organic molecules in an alkane solvent.

1 38. A component according to Claim 37, wherein each organic molecule is
2 a substituted alkyl biphenyl.

1 39. A component comprising: /
2 a substrate having a substrate surface; and
3 nanoscale ordered patterns of organic molecules located on the substrate
4 surface, the nanoscale ordered patterns being formed by organic molecules having a
5 tendency to naturally align in an ordered pattern when temporarily applied to an
6 aligning surface and subsequently transferred to the substrate surface.

1 40. A component according to Claim 39, wherein nanoscale ordered
2 patterns of the organic molecules are used as components in a circuit on the surface of
3 the substrate.

1 41. A component according to Claim 39, wherein nanoscale ordered
2 patterns of the organic molecules are used as a mask for etching components in a
3 circuit on the surface of the substrate.

1 42. A component according to Claim 39, wherein the nanoscale ordered
2 patterns of organic molecules are created from a dielectric material.

1 43. A component according to Claim 39, further comprising nanometer
2 sized features on the substrate surface created by etching the surface around the
3 nanoscale ordered patterns of organic molecules.

1 44. A component according to Claim 39, wherein the aligning surface has
2 graphite-like properties.

1 45. A component according to Claim 39, wherein the organic molecules
2 contain alkyl chains that extend away from the substrate surface and that are
3 connected to the substrate surface by a functional group.

1 46. A component according to Claim 39, wherein the lateral spacing of the
2 ordered patterns is controlled by solvating alkyl-cyano biphenyl molecules in an
3 alkane solvent.

1 47. A component comprising: /
2 a substrate having a substrate surface; and
3 a self-assembled layer having nanoscale ordered patterns of molecules
4 produced by a means for aligning self-assembling molecules in ordered patterns and a
5 means for transferring the self-assembled monolayer to the substrate surface, where
6 the self-assembled layer accommodates nano-scale circuit components.

1 48. A component according to Claim 47, wherein the nanoscale ordered
2 patterns of molecules are used as components in a circuit on the substrate surface.

1 49. A component according to Claim 47, wherein the nanoscale ordered
2 patterns of molecules are used as a mask for etching components in a circuit on the
3 surface of the substrate.

1 50. A component according to Claim 47, wherein the nanoscale ordered
2 patterns of molecules are created from a dielectric material.

1 51. A component according to Claim 47, further comprising nanometer
2 sized features on the substrate surface created by etching the surface around the
3 nanoscale ordered patterns of molecules.

1 52. A component according to Claim 47, wherein the means for aligning
2 includes a surface having graphite-like properties.

1 53. A component according to Claim 47, wherein the nanoscale ordered
2 patterns of molecules contain alkyl chains that extend away from the substrate surface
3 and are connected to the substrate surface by a functional group.

1 54. A component according to Claim 47, wherein the nanoscale ordered
2 patterns of molecules are laterally spaced and are controlled by solvating alkyl-cyano
3 biphenyl molecules in an alkane solvent.